



Volunteer opportunities



Volunteers-in-Parks are VIPs

Herbert Hoover National Historic Site offers opportunities for hands-on experience working with the public, park staff, and park resources. Each year over 100,000 Volunteers-in-Parks donate millions of hours of service to national parks. Join them to become a Very Important Person.

In the field or behind the scenes

Administrative team assistant

Help with files, update standard operating procedures manual, general computer work, organization, and other jobs as they come up. You must be available to work during weekdays between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Bluebird project assistant

Walk the beautiful trails of the tallgrass prairie to monitor the bluebird houses. A volunteer are needed one day per week from mid March to mid July during the nesting season to check the bluebird houses for nests, eggs, young birds, and to identify the species of bird occupying the nest.

Gardener

Help plant and maintain historic shrub beds, and flower and vegetable gardens from late April to mid-October. You may have to research to verify the historic accuracy of plant varieties. A time commitment of up to 4-8 hours weekly to weed and water beds is required. Days and hours are flexible. The park will furnish seeds, plants, and equipment.

Living history interpreter

Participate in a living history program. The volunteer wears a costume representative of 1870s West Branch, Iowa and interprets the childhood of Herbert Hoover. Activities may consist of portraying a character at one of the historic buildings or participating in period games and activities. Costumes will be provided.

Maintenance

Assist with a variety of projects depending on your skills and interests, and on the needs of the maintenance division. Projects may include grounds and landscape maintenance, roads and trail work, janitorial work, or equipment operation.

Museum collections assistant

Work with a National Park museum collection. The volunteer helps the park historian to organize, catalog, and preserve photos, artifacts, documents, plant specimens, and exhibits.

National Public Lands Day

National Public Lands Day is an annual national volunteer effort to give back public lands. Local volunteers and volunteer organizations help restore the 81-acre native tallgrass prairie. National Public Lands Day is the last Saturday in September.

Special events

Help with special events such as Hooverfest, held each August, and A Christmas Past, held each December.

Visitor center assistant/tour guide

Assist interpretive park rangers with visitor center operations, development and implementation of new and on-going exhibits, education programs, special events, coordination of volunteer programs, and other special projects. Lead 45-minute walking tours of the historic grounds or of the tall grass prairie, research tour subject material, work at the Visitor Center, perform light maintenance in historic buildings.

Learn more

To learn more, call (319) 643-7855, e-mail the park at heho_interpretation@nps.gov, or write to:

Herbert Hoover National Historic Site
P.O. Box 607
West Branch, IA 52240

Updated volunteer opportunities are posted on the Web at www.nps.gov/heho/. Follow the links to "Volunteer" or "Support your park".